

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Appln. No. 09/883,391
Docket No. Q64978

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 1 is the only independent claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 9 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants, however, hold in abeyance the rewriting of these claims until the Examiner has had a chance to consider the remarks below with respect to independent claim 1.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and §103

Claims 1-3 and 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Iwashita (US 5,467,001). Claims 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Iwashita in view of Mori (JP 06-225573).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the motor current limit value obtained by the motor current limit value calculating section gradually decreases a peak voltage of a sine wave motor current with the passage of time. This amendment is fully supported by the original specification at least by the *non-limiting* embodiment discussed at page 8, line 13 through page 9, line 16.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 1 at least because Iwashita does not teach or suggest all of the recitations of the claim. For example, Iwashita does not teach or suggest the claimed motor current device with a means for preventing overheat protection having a motor current limit value calculating section in which the motor

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Docket No. Q64978

current limit value obtained by the motor current limit value calculating section gradually decreases a peak voltage of a sine wave motor current with the passage of time.

The object of Iwashita is to “provide a control method for increasing the maximum torque when the motor is accelerating, as well as to prevent the maximum torque from exceeding a limit value when the motor is decelerating.” Iwashita at 2:59-63. In Iwashita, the actual current is only controlled so as not to exceed the current limit value K_o (where K_o is a constant value), as shown in Fig. 6(b). Iwashita at 7:9-17.

That is, Iwashita’s invention is clearly different from that of amended claim 1 at least because Iwashita does not teach or suggest that the motor current limit value obtained by the motor current limit value calculating section gradually decreases a peak voltage of a sine wave motor current with the passage of time. Therefore, in contrast to the claimed invention, Iwashita’s method does not achieve the effect of performing overheat protection while smoothly changing the a motor output characteristic with the passage of time.

As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of independent claim 1 at least for the reasons discussed above.

In addition, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of dependent claims 2-3 and 11-20 at least because of their dependency from claim 1. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of dependent claims 4-8 at least because of their dependency from claim 1 and because Mori, which was cited by the Examiner in an attempt to show limiting of d and q axial current by vector synthesizing, does not make up for the deficiencies in Iwashita discussed above.

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Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

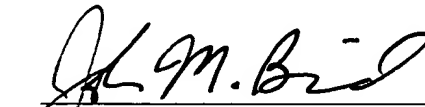
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